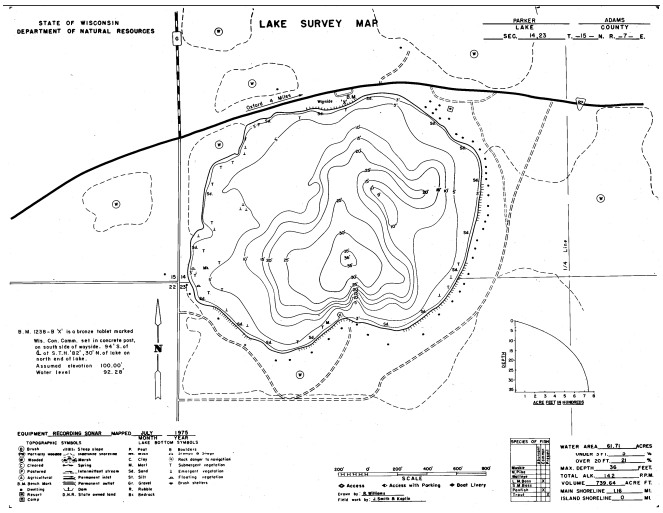
2005 PARKER LAKE SNAPSHOT



The first aquatic plant survey recorded for Parker Lake was conducted in 2005. This survey found 21 native aquatic species in Parker Lake, including 8 emergent species, 2 rooted floating-leaf plants and 8 submergent species.

Several aquatic invasives were also found in 2005: Eurasian Watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*), Curly-Leaf Pondweed (*Potamogeton crispus*) and Reed Canarygrass (*Phalaris arundinacea*). These three invasives comprised 12.5% of the aquatic community in Parker Lake, with Eurasian Watermilfoil the most frequently-occurring by far.

The average summer water clarity was 10.3 feet (very good). The average summer water temperature was 77.3 degrees Fahrenheit (Adams County was experiencing drought with hot still weather in 2005).

The summer average total phosphorus level was 23.5 micrograms/liter (good).

The summer chlorophyll-a average stayed low at 2.3 micrograms/liter.

The dominant aquatic species found in 2005 was the plant-like algae *Chara* (muskgrass). Unfortunately, the sub-dominant species in 2005 was the invasive Eurasian Watermilfoil (this was before the lake association had attempted any treatment or harvesting to manage it).

Overall, the aquatic plant community found in 2005 had average diversity, but its quality was limited by the significant presence of the invasives and plants tolerant of disturbance.

100% of the sample sites were vegetated.